

Subject: Alert! Updates on Pay Now, Medi-Cal, and Small Business January Rates



October 10, 2016

Tell us about your *Pay Now* experience

Participate in a brief survey about your experience with the ***Pay Now*** functionality. Your anonymous answers will help improve the Pay Now tool – making it easier to help consumers effectuate coverage. The survey should take under 5 minutes of your time. [Click this link to take the survey now>>](#)

Quote Your January Business Today! 2017 Rates Now Available for *Covered California for Small Business*

Covered California for Small Business is pleased to announce that January 1, 2017 health insurance rates are now available. Through strategic partnerships, *Covered California for Small Business* is able to offer the most competitive rates available through any exchange.

Begin quoting your January business now.

Plans offered through Covered California for Small Business in 2017 will feature:

- Blue Shield of California adding their full PPO network statewide across all metal tiers with coverage available to employees working out-of-state. This will create two, full network PPO options for the small business program.
- A new plan, TRIO HMO Network, powered by a recent innovation in health care, the Accountable Care Organization (ACO), will now be offered by Blue Shield of California.
- Kaiser Permanente bringing coverage to Santa Cruz and the surrounding area; additionally,

- A new dental carrier, California Dental Network, that will be offering children's and family dental HMO.

These expansions improve options for employers in rural parts of the state and expand access to the small business tax credit only available through *Covered California for Small Business*.

To obtain a quote or for more information on January rates or 2017 plan changes, please contact a *Covered California for Small Business* General Agent or the *Covered California for Small Business* sales team at 844-332-8384.

Helping Consumers in Medi-Cal Webinar

The *Helping Consumers in Medi-Cal* webinar originally scheduled for tomorrow has been postponed. You will receive an alert once it has been rescheduled.

Need answers now? Ensure to review our new [Assisting Medi-Cal Eligible Consumers FAQ](#), which includes scenario-based questions, definitions for common terms, and resources for seeking help with difficult cases. If the FAQs did not answer your question, ensure to send us an email at OutreachandSales@covered.ca.gov, and we will address them at our *Helping Consumers in Medi-Cal* webinar and update the FAQs.

An updated schedule of upcoming webinars is now available for you to view online. To register for our webinars, use the [following link here](#).

Shopping Makes Cents

Last Friday, October 7 in a [Press Release](#), Covered California urged existing consumers to Shop and Compare 2017 plans and rates this renewal season.

“Nearly 80 percent of our consumers will either be able to pay less than they are paying now for health insurance, or see their rates go up by no more than 5 percent if they shop and switch to another plan” said Peter V. Lee, executive director of Covered California.

The upgraded Shop and Compare tool will make it much easier for consumers to shop and compare plans as it offers consumers the ability to view their current plan with 2017 rates in a side-by-side comparison with other health and dental plan choices for 2017. [Review our Shop & Compare Video Walkthrough>>](#)

Upcoming Outages

Saturday, November 5 from 8:00pm to Monday, November 7 at 6:00am*

*This outage is scheduled for the first weekend of Open Enrollment. Plan ahead and avoid any event that would require the online application during this time.

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LMS Help Desk Support

Contact LMS Help Desk Support at CCULearning@covered.ca.gov.